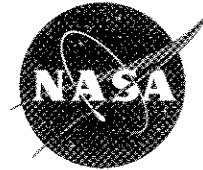


National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Langley Research Center
100 NASA Road
Hampton, VA 23681-2199



May 10, 2010

Reply to Attn of: TO: Distribution

FROM: 141/Langley Research Center, Chief Counsel

SUBJECT: Blanket approval to attend a Tessada & Associates, Inc., and Science and Technology Corporation, co-sponsored pre-launch reception for the upcoming Space Shuttle Atlantis STS-132 mission on May 13, 2010

In accordance with 5 C.F.R. 2635.204(g)(2) and (3), I make the following determination:

NASA invitees, accompanied by their spouse or a guest, may attend a pre-launch reception co-sponsored by Tessada & Associates, Inc., and Science and Technology Corporation, for the upcoming Space Shuttle Atlantis STS-132 on Thursday, May 13, 2010, from 6-8 p.m. in the Challenger Ballroom at the Doubletree Hotel, Cocoa Beach, Florida.

This event is to be held in conjunction with the launch of Space Shuttle Atlantis STS-132, at the Kennedy Space Center on May 14, 2010.

This event will be a widely-attended gathering of approximately 800 representatives of government, the aerospace industry, academia and the community. Heavy hors d'oeuvres will be served at a cost of approximately \$20 per person and a cash bar will be available.

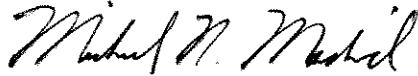
I have determined that free attendance at the above mentioned reception is in the interests of the agency because it will further agency programs and operations. The attendance of NASA employees at the event will provide employees the opportunity to discuss the mission, the shuttle program, and other NASA space programs with interested members of the aerospace industry, academia, and the community. Given the purpose of the event, the broad attendance anticipated, and the modest market value of this social event, I have determined that the value to the agency in having employees attend this event outweighs any concern that free attendance may or may appear to improperly influence them in the performance of their duties.

Accordingly, NASA LaRC employees that have been invited to attend may accept free attendance at the event. They may also accept invitations for accompanying spouses or guests.

NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect Tessada & Associates, Inc., and Science and Technology Corporation are not covered in this determination and should seek a determination pursuant to 5 CFR 2635.204(g)(3)(i) regarding their participation in these events from their local ethics counselor.

NASA employees who are in non-career positions in which Executive Order 13490 requires signing an ethics pledge may only attend if they reimburse the sponsors the cost of the reception for themselves and any accompanying guest.

Questions about this determination may be addressed to Pete Polen at 757-864-3221.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael N. Madrid". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with some capitalization.

Michael N. Madrid